This seems to be just another futility but in case the Post doesn't use it I thought you'd want to see it.

Bay of Pigs--report says 4 mobsters

Associated Press JUN 1 1975

SACRAMENTO — The Central Intelligence Agency relied on four underworld mobsters for the information used in planning the ill-fated 1961 Bay of Pigs invasion of Cuba, the Sacramento Bee said today.

The CIA's underworld informants, all former Havana casino bosses, had buried $750,000 in Cuba when they fled Fidel Castro. Therefore, they had a stake in encouraging the United States to undertake the invasion to overthrow Castro, the Bee reported.

"The information they supplied to the CIA supposedly pinpointed troop and naval vessel positions," Bee investigative reporter Denny Walsh wrote.

"More importantly, perhaps, the mobsters also reported that many of the people of Havana were unsympathetic to Castro and would almost certainly rise up in support of a counter-revolutionary force once it had established a beachhead," Walsh continued.

In exchange for their help, the hoodlums had been promised they would be allowed to recover their buried cache unhindered, Walsh said.

He said the hoodlums had their own boat, with one CIA man aboard, standing off the Cuban shore when the Bay of Pigs invasion started. But when it became obvious that the invasion of 1,400 exiles was a failure, the mobster boat returned to Florida.

Walsh identified the source of his information as a former CIA employee. He quoted Lawrence R. Houston, described as the CIA official receiving the underworld information, declining to confirm or deny the account.

The Bee said two of the four mobsters involved with the CIA in the Bay of Pigs

helped CIA set it up

are still alive.

It said one is Russell Bufalino, 71, described as a still active northeastern Pennsylvania Mafia boss, and the other is George Levine, also known as George Lewis, described as an overseer of Mafia gambling interests in pre-Castro Cuba. The Bee said he is reportedly living in Coral Gables, Fla.

The other two were James Plumeri, identified as a former Mafia hijacker, labor racketeer and garment district strongman, and Salvatore Granello, identified as a Mafia extortionist and gambler. Both were victims several years ago of unrelated gangland executions, Walsh wrote.